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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES \$3,162,772 GRANT FOR THE CITY OF INGRAM

INGRAM, TEXAS, June 10, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that the City of Ingram has been selected to receive a Colonia Grant in the amount of \$3,162,772 from the agency's Water and Waste Disposal Program. The funds from the grant will be used for the construction of a wastewater collection system that will prevent hazardous conditions like groundwater contamination.

"USDA Rural Development is proud to be part of a project with such importance," said Daniel. "These funds will enable the City of Ingram to update from individual septic systems to a wastewater collection system, and ensure that the community remains a safe and healthy place to live."

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs provide funding for construction, improvement, or expansion of water and waste disposal systems, telecommunication and education resources, and necessary community facilities.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Wastewater Program is designed to bring fresh, clean, drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Fredericksburg office at (830) 997-8902, Ext. 4, or visit our website at http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.

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